



ALACHUA COUNTY Environmental Protection Advisory Committee

408 W University Avenue, Gainesville, Florida 32601
Tel: (352) 264-6800 Fax (352) 264-6852

David Moritz, Chair
Scott Knight, Vice-Chair

August 6, 2019 EPAC meeting

Member Attendees: David Moritz, Bruce Blackwell, Lindsey Kelly, Neesha Anderson, Scott Knight, Elaine Young, Peter van Blokland (PJ), Jeff Arnold, Jennifer Carr, George Papadi, Bettina Moser

Public: Zachary Newcomer

Staff: Stephen Hofstetter, Steve Kabat, Stacie Greco

1. Call to Order-Determination of Quorum at 6pm
2. Introduce and Recognize new members
3. Review and adoption of Agenda. Motion by PJ and seconded by Elaine. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Review and adoption of July 2, 2019 Minutes. Motion by Neesha and seconded by Lindsey. Motion passed unanimously.
5. Review BOCC assignments
 - a) June 11 BOCC Motion - *That we direct staff to prepare for the Board's consideration a policy position regarding the issuance of consumptive use permits in the Santa Fe Basin while the river is in a water management district declared recovery status. Refer to Environmental Protection Advisory Committee (EPAC) and let them know what we are doing and we want a policy in hand at the beginning of the next review process.* (Stacie Greco)

Stacie explained that the county is in the process on hiring an expert to complete a technical peer review of available information. This work is scheduled to begin this fiscal year (before October).

- b) Review Tree protection code standards (Steve Kabat, County Arborist) –

Steve K. and Steve H. presented a current draft code and cover letter. The members requested that the last paragraph be removed from the cover letter and to add two additional recommendations. One, to present a tiered approach to the fee schedule based on tree size and two, add a provision that would allow open space credit and flexibility for additional heritage/specimen tree protection within the development project. Staff will bring these items back to their Sept. 3rd regular meeting.

- c) Update on Business Plan for Eco-industrial Park (Patrick Irby) – no update
- d) Rights of Nature update (Steve H.) – staff is reviewing the policy and hopes to come back to the BOCC this fall.

6. Air Pollution Presentation [Part II] (George Papadi) – spoke for 30 minutes. Will continue the presentation at a future meeting.

7. Plastic Straw Ban discussion (David) – waiting on outcome of plastic bag ban lawsuit

8. Discussion Community Conversation ideas – move the item up higher on the next meeting agenda. Mentioned food waste, light pollution, trees, and septic tanks as possible topics.

9. EPAC members briefing points –Jennifer C. mentioned the Climate Crisis event at the Thelma Boltin Center on Aug. 8 at 10 am – 2pm.

10. EPD staff briefing points (Steve H.) - none

11. Topics for September 3rd meeting – not discussed

12. Public comments - none

13. Motion to Adjourn at 8:01 by Jennifer Carr and seconded by Elaine Y. Motion passed unanimously.